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Tuff is 3-8 times superior in quality to shellrock, but is more difficult to extract; in spite of this, extraction costs are four times less than that of the Moldavian "kotelets" /a type of shellrock/.

Moscow, Promyshlennost' Stroitel'nykh Materialov, 23 May 53

Armenia is expanding its extraction of tuff, granite, and marble. New quarries are being developed near the city of Kirovakan and in Beriya Rayon.

Yerevan, Kommunist, 23 Feb 53

In 1952, the Yerevan Construction Materials Plant produced 640,000 rubles' worth of construction materials.

The plant has been supplying building projects of Armenia and the other USSR republics with necessary building materials. It is supplying pumice blocks, mosaic steps, marble slabs, and crushed marble chips to Stalingrad, Baku, Tbilisi, Krasnodar, Makhach-Kala, and other cities.

GEORGIAN SSR MARBLE QUARRY CONTINUES TO OPERATE SATISFACTORILY -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 3 Feb 53

The quarry workers of the rich Salieti Marble Quarry, located 7 kilometers from Chiatura (Georgian SSR), exceeded their quota for 1952 and are continuing their fine performance in 1953.

60 MILLION CUBIC METERS OF STONE NEEDED ANNUALLY BY VILLAGE, KOLKHOZ BUILDING PROJECTS -- Moscow, Izvestiya, 28 Mar 53

The demand of the village and kolkhoz building projects for natural stone needed to build walls is approximately 60 million cubic meters annually.

In some areas such as the Crimea and the Northern Caucasus, the brick industry is not being expanded because of the limited deposits of clay in these areas and because of the fact that in these areas there are large deposits of natural stone which can be used as wall building material.

By employing mechanized facilities, a cubic meter of natural stone wall blocks can be produced 3-5 times cheaper than a cubic meter of brick.

Stone deposits are found in many areas of the USSR. In the RSFSR alone, such deposits are found in 37 krais, oblasts, and autonomous republics.

If the demands of the kolkhozes for stone wall blocks are to be met, the small stone deposits will have to be developed further. Mobile stone-processing stations, composed of a small scraper, a 10-15 kilowatt diesel-electric power plant, and a stone-cutting machine, all attached to a truck and trailer, will have to be set up in the regions of the stone quarries.

In Rostovskaya Oblast, demand for stone blocks amounts to approximately 2 million cubic meters. The large Proletarsk stone deposit in the oblast has been explored, and it will be possible to open a large stone quarry at this deposit. The stone blocks could be shipped from the area by rail, motor, or water.

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

NEW STONE QUARRIES OPENED IN TURKISH SSR -- Ashkhabad, Turkmen'skaya Pravda, 17 Jan 53

Stone quarries with modern equipment have been opened in the mountainous areas of Sultan-Uiz-Daga and Khodzheyli, in the hilly section of Ketmenchi near Takhiya-Tash, and in Kizyl-Arvat'skiy Rayon.

In 1952, the Khodzheyli and Ketmenchi quarries extracted 160,000 cubic meters of stone, or considerably more than the 75,000 cubic meters planned. These two quarries are now quarrying up to 1,000 cubic meters of stone during a 24-hour period.

The largest quarries are those of Kara-Tau. The entire process of extracting the stone, transporting it to the wharf in Kara-Tau, and loading it into barges is completely mechanized. In 1952, these quarries shipped 280,000 tons of local construction materials from Kara-Tau to Takhiya-Tash by water transport. The materials were unloaded by excavators, conveyers, and boat derrick cranes.

Plans also call for opening a large quarry at Dzhimur-Tau, on the bank of the Amu-Dar'ya River, with a branch railroad to be laid from the Chardou - Urgench railroad line to the quarry.

UZBEK SSR LAGS IN EXTRACTING STONE -- Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 11 Jan 53

A conference was held recently in Tashkent to discuss the construction material situation of Uzbek SSR.

Although the republic has large deposits of natural building stone, the lack of concern about making a study of these materials by the republic's Geological Administration, institutes of the Academy of Sciences Uzbek SSR, and other organizations has resulted in building and decorative stone being extracted in extremely low quantities.

NEW BUILDING MATERIAL DEVELOPED IN BELORUSSIAN SSR -- Moscow, Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 14 Feb 53

The Institute of Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences Belorussian SSR has developed a new construction material known as azuric marble. It is light in weight, can be easily processed, and is a low conductor of heat.

The first plant to process azure marble slabs in the USSR will be built in 1953. It will be completely mechanized.

3 PLANTS TO SUPPLY BUILDING PROJECTS WITH 200,000 SQUARE METERS OF STONE -- Yerevan, Kommunist, 26 Feb 53

The Kiev Granite Processing Plant and the Leningrad and Tbilisi marble-processing plants expect to supply about 200,000 square meters of granite and marble slabs and various architectural products to the building projects.

LENINGRAD MARBLE PLANT UPS OUTPUT -- Leningrad, Leningradskaya Pravda, 3 Mar 53

The Leningrad Marble Processing Plant has been getting tens of cars loaded with white and colored marble from the Urals, the Georgian SSR, and the Armenian SSR, which it has been processing and then shipping to building projects.

- 3 -

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in Moscow and other localities. All of the plant's operations are mechanized. Its labor efficiency increased considerably, and, in early 1953, the plant increased its rate of output almost 1.5 times over 1952.

NEW STONE PLANT IN ZHIGULEVSK -- Leningrad, Leningradskaya Pravda, 14 Apr 53

A large stone and rubblestone plant has started operations in Zhigulevsk (Kuybyshevskaya Oblast). The new plant has the most modern equipment, is completely mechanized, and will have an annual capacity of 800,000 cubic meters of stone and rubblestone.

The plant will get its raw material from the Mogutovaya Mountain, Yablo-novyy Ravine, and Tsarev Hill. Full-capacity operations are expected soon.

STONE DEPOSITS FOUND NEAR KRASNOVODSK -- Pravda, Izvestiya, 5 Mar 53

Very large deposits of stone have been found in the area of Krasnovodsk, and the city's construction materials industry will be expanded by the establishment of a construction materials combine. The stone found in the area is harder than oak, yet easily processed.

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- 4 -

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